

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Alistair I. Goudie  
Serial No.: N/A  
Filed: Herewith  
Title: ARBITER FOR A QUEUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
Docket No.: 34260

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir/Madam:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof, in the following manner.

IN THE CLAIMS:

13. (AMENDED) A QMS system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the arbiter is such that the next highest priority level is allocated to accesses to the bus by the QMS.

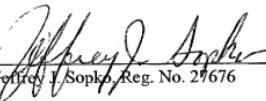
REMARKS

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication not covered by the enclosed check, or if the check was omitted, please charge all uncovered fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34260.

Respectfully submitted,

PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By \_\_\_\_\_

  
Jeffrey J. Sopko, Reg. No. 29676

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December 26, 2001

Marked-Up Claims  
Application Filed Herewith - Page No. 13

13. A QMS system as claimed in claim  $\leftrightarrow$  12, wherein the arbiter is such that the next highest priority level is allocated to accesses to the bus by the QMS.